

## Message Text

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67

ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 NEA-10 NSC-10

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

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TOSEC 279

E.O. LL652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: REPORTAGE OF TRAVELING PRESS, FRIDAY,  
MARCH 1

FOR VEST

SUMMARY: PRACTICALLY ALL PAPERS FRONT-PAGE RESTORATION OF  
US-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS AND GIVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO  
SECRETARY'S BUSY SIGHTSEEING-CUM-DIPLOMACY SCHEDULE IN ME.  
PHASE TWO ON SYRIAN FRONT DISENGAGEMENT ALSO RECEIVED MUCH  
ATTENTION AS DID SADAT'S INVITATION TO PRESIDENT  
NIXON TO VISIT EGYPT. END SUMMARY

1. NYT'S GWERTZMAN BLANKED OUT BY COLLEAGUES SMITH IN TEL  
AVIV AND TANNER IN CAIRO. FORMER LEADS PAPER WITH WHAT  
APPEAR TO BE ESSENTIAL DETAILS, ALL FROM ISRAELI SOURCES,  
OF GOI'S DISENGAGEMENT SCHEME WHICH HAK IS TO TAKE TO  
DAMASCUS: A DMZ IN SYRIAN GOLAN SEIZED BY IDF IN OCTOBER.  
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SAID ZONE WILL BE POLICED BY UN FORCES AND TWO ARMIES ON

EITHER SIDE WOULD "THIN OUT" FORCES AND WEAPONS. ALSO TO BE TURNED OVER TO UN CONTROL WOULD BE TWO SYRIAN OUTPOSTS TAKEN IN OCTOBER. TANNER HAS SEPARATE FRONT-PAGER UNDER THREE-COLUM PIX OF HAK AND SADAT AT PYRAMIDS LEADING WITH RESUMPTION OF DIP RELATIONS. BALANCE OF LONG STORY CHRONICLES SADAT'S SALLIES WITH THE PRESS, HAK'S TIRELESS SIGHTSEEING AND SOCIALIZING, AND REASONS FOR SECRETARY'S

TRIP TO CAIRO, ACCORDING TO US OFFICIALS: BECAUSE OF HIGH ESTEEM HAK HAS DEVELOPED FOR SADAT AND BECAUSE OF CRUCIAL ROLE HAK BELIEVES EGYPTIAN EXAMPLE CAN SERVE IN FORTH-COMING DIFFICULT ISRAELI-SYRIAN EXCHANGES. ADDS SADAT APPEARS TO ACCEPT ROLE, THAT HE ALMOST EAGERLY DEMONSTRATED HIS TRUST IN SECRETARY. QUOTING INFORMED SOURCES, TANNER ALSO REPORTS HAK-SADAT FEB. 28 DISCUSSIONS TOUCHED ON SECOND-STAGE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI BEYOND MITLA, GIDI PASSES.

2. WASHPOST (BERGER) FRONT-PAGE RESUMED DIP RELATIONS AND SAYS, HIGH IN STORY, THAT SADAT'S PUBLIC INVITATION TO NIXON TO VISIT EGYPT INDICATES US HAS PROBABLY ALREADY ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE. AFTER DETAILING EVENTS OF DAY AND SIGNIFICANCE THEREOF, BERGER QUOTES EGYPTIAN SOURCES AS SAYING SADAT DISPATCHING HIGH-LEVEL ENVOY TO TALK TO ASAD BEFORE HAK GOES BACK TO DAMASCUS, THIS BY WAY OF UNDERSCORING THEME THAT SADAT CRUCIAL TO GOLAN SETTLEMENT. ONLY DIRECT QUOTES FROM US OFFICIALS ARE HAK'S, (A) ON BEING RAINED ON AT CHEOPS PYRAMID ("HAVE YOU EVER BEEN RAINED ON IN THE DESERT BEFORE?"), AND (B) ON CONCLUSION OF MS FUAD'S BELLY-DANCE ("SHE WILL BE THE FIRST TO RECEIVE A CULTURAL EXCHANGE VISA.")

3. WASHSTAR'S JERRY O INSIDE (P4) WITH 450 WORDS REPORTING HAK AT ATTENTION AS FLAG GOES UP OVER AMEMB CAIRO FIRST TIME SINCE 1967. DETAILS SECRETARY'S CAPITAL-TO-CAPITAL ITINERARY AND REASONS THEREFORE, THEN FOCUSES ON UPCOMING RIYADH VISIT AND PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUING OIL EMBARGO. SAYS REPORTERS TRAVELING WITH HAK CERTAIN ANY GOOD NEWS THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE RESERVED FOR WHITE HOUSE.

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4. BALTSUN HAS KEAT OUTSIDE ABOVE FOLD LEADING WITH RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS AND, AT LENGTH, SADAT'S CRYPTIC COMMENTS ON WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT IN ME DIPLOMACY. BURIES NIXON INVITATION TO CAIRO DEEP IN STORY AND NOTES, AS DO OTHER STORIES THAT SADAT RECEIVED HAK IN MUFTI FOR FIRST TIME IN HIS FOUR VISITS HERE. REASON, SADAT QUOTED AS SAYING, IS TO PAY TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY'S -TIRELESS

EFFORTS" FOR ME PEACE AND ADDED IT FIRST TIME HE'S WORN  
CIVVIES TO RECEIVE A VISITOR SINCE WAR.

5. NYDN'S NIFTY BANNER HEAD P., "US, EGYPT BUDDIES AGAIN",  
GRACES CARTER'S 500 WORDS EX-CAIRO, WHO HAS SECRETARY  
ACTUALLY RAISING FLAG AT OUR EMBASSY. WHOLE PIECE BASIC  
EXPLAINER OF SITUATION HAK DEALING WITH. SAYS AMERICAN

OFFICIALS WON'T SAY SO PUBLICLY, BUT A CHIEF PURPOSE OF  
HAK'S VISIT TO CAIRO IS TO GET SADAT TO URGE PATIENCE  
ON ASAD, SO HE DOES NOT BREAK OFF NEGOTIATIONS AS SOON  
AS HE SEES ISRAELI IDEAS TOMORROW. SADAT SAYS HE WILL  
ADVISE ASAD: "TO START, AND CONTINUE, AND GIVE  
DR. KISSINGER THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK OUT AND ACHIEVE WHAT  
HE HAS ACHIEVED HERE ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT." CARTER  
FURTHER QUOTES SADAT ON SIGNIFICANCE OF CHANGE OF ATTIRE:  
"SURE ... I THINK WE ARE HAVING NEW ERA." PIECE CONCLUDES  
WITH AMERICAN OFFICIAL ON ISRAEL-EGYPT FLIGHT THAT IF  
GOLAN DISENGAGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS SUCCEED, PROBABLE NEXT  
STEP IS ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT FURTHER AND POSSIBLY FINAL  
ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI PENINSULA. ADDS DIRECT  
QUOTE FROM SAME OFFICIAL THAT IF SYRIAN-ISRAELI DIS-  
ENGAGEMENT WORKS, THERE WOULD BE AT LEAST A CHANCE OF  
MAKING "SOME VERY BIG PROGRESS" ON THIS (SINAI) FRONT.

6. CHITRIB HAS UPI OVERNITER OF DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS  
EXTENSIVELY ON P1. NO STARR COPY.

7. HEARST: FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH WALLACH AND HAVE  
BLACKSHEETS ON HIS FILE SINCE MONDAY. HIS OVERNITER EX-  
CAIRO FEBRUARY 28 FOCUSES ON HAK-SADAT HUDDLE ON MAP  
PLANS FOR SECOND AND PROBABLY FINAL STAGE OF  
ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN TROOP WITHDRAWALS, (HE SUBORDINATES  
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RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS.)

QUOTES US OFFICIALS DIRECTLY THAT SYRIA "HOLDS THE  
KEY" TO FINAL EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT. UNLIKE OTHER  
TRAVELERS WHO REPORT  
E E E E E E E

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